

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20

ACDA-12 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /097 W

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R 011452Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6726

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

UNCLAS MANAAGUA 2485

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MPOL, NU

SUBJECT: SOMOZA SAYS THE NATIONAL GUARD CAN TAKE CARE OF ITSELF

1. PRESIDENT SOMOZA'S ARMY DAY SPEECH (MAY 27) TOUTED THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HIS LIBERAL PARTY AND THE NATIONAL GUARD(GN). HOWEVER, THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE SPEECH WAS DIRECTED TO THE NEW CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH THE GN CAN NO LONGER COUNTR ON ASSSITANCE FROM ITS TRADITIONAL ALLIES.

2. HE SAID, "TODAY IS THE DEPARTURE POINT FOR THE NEW FUTURE OF NICARAGUA. BEFORE WE COULD GIVE OUTSELVES THE LUXURY OF THINKING THAT WE WERE ALWAYS GOING TO HAVE ALLIES WHO WOULD COME TO OUR AID IF CALLED, BUT INTERNATIONAL AND GEOPOLITICAL POLICIES HAVE CHANGED THINGS, THUS, WE OURSELVES HAVE TO ARM OUTSELVES AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF OUR TROOPS IN ORDER TO HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME IN THE CASE THAT WE ARE ATTACKED BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF COOPERATION FROM THE ALLIES

WHICH WE COULD HAVE HAD."

3. "TODAY IS GOING TO CHANGE OUR POSITION OF HAVING A TACTICAL

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UNIT IN NICARAGUA TO A UNIT WHICH WE MUST RAISE TO A LEVEL WHICH TRULY PROTECTS THE INTEREST OF THE NICARAGUANS. THUS, THE NEW INTERNATIONAL POLICY OF THE POWERS IS MAKING PEOPLES SUCH AS OURS, WHICH BEFORE INVESTED 90 PERCENT OF OUR NATIONAL BUDGET IN PACIFIC THINGS, NOW SPEND MORE FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE, WHICH SIGNIFIES MORE TAXES FOR THE PEOPLE, BUT A FREE COUNTRY IS WORTH MORE THAN A COUNTRY INTIMIDATED AND ENSLAVED BY INTERNATIONA INTERESTS."

4. "FEW NATIONS... COULD HAVE RESISTED THE OSCILLATING ATTACKS WHICH THIS ONE HAS RESISTED FROM THE 10TH OF JANUARY TO THIS DATE. ONLY A CITIZENSHIP WHICH IN ITS MAJORITY IS CONTENT AND HAS HOPE IN THE FUTURE WITHIN THE SYSTEM IN WHICH WE LIVE COULD HAVE SUSTAINED THE INSOLENCE OF A MINORITY WHICH CHIEFLY HAS BENEFITED FROM THE SACRIFICE OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICE AND HAS TRAMPLED ON AN OCEAN OF TRANQUILITY WHICH IS MADE AND PROVIDED BY THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE."

5. "ONLY A COUNTRY LIKE NICARAGUA COULD HAVE RESISTED THOSE SUDDEN ATTACKS, AND ONLY A PROPERLY QUALIFIED, TRAINED ARMED INSTITUTION, SUCH AS THE GN, COULD HAVE HAD THE TOLERANCE TO PUT UP WITH THE IMPERTINENCES TO THE EXTENT THEY THINK WE ARE WEAK. THE STRENGTH WHICH THE LOVE FOR THE NICARAGUAN CITIZENS GIVES, MAKES US RESPECT THEIR INTENTIONS AND WAY OF BEING, BUT IT DOES NOT TAKE FROM US IN THE LEAST THE POWER OF FORCE WHICH IS GIVEN US BY OUR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND THE EFFICIENT USE OF OUR ARMS."

6. "FOR THIS, I THINK THAT HISTORY WILL RECORD THESE PAST FIVE MONTHS AS THE MAXIMUM TEXT WHICH AN ARMED FORCE HAS GOTTEN AROUND WITH THE FINAL RESULT OF A TRULY FRUITFUL PEACE WHERE THE PEOPLE HAVE RECOGNIZED THAT THE MEN OF UNIFORM TRULY HAS ITS INTERESTS PROFUNDLY IN HIS HEART."

7. OPPOSITION DAILY, LA PRENSA, CHARACTERIZED SOMOZA'S SPEECH AS AN UNCLASSIFIED

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"INCREDIBLE ADMISSION OF DEPENDENCY". IT SAID SOMOZA TACITLY ADMITTED THAT THE DYNASTY HAS BEEN SUPPORTED DURING THE PAST 44 YEARS BY THE US RATHER THAN THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE. IT CONTINUED THAT NOW THAT SOMOZA SURELY FEELS HIMSELF AN ORPHAN OF US SUPPORT; HE SAYS HE WILL SPEND MORE ON THE GN WHILE THE POOR PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRY CONTINUE TO FACE POVERTY AND A LACK OF SOCIAL SERVICES. LA PRENSA ALSO POINTED TO THE ANOMALY OF SOMOZA SAYING HE DOESN'T WANT TO SEE ANY FOREIGN MILITARY INTERVENTION IN NICARAGUA WHILE AT THE SAME TIME IT IS PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE THAT IN NICARAGUA FOREIGN MERCENARIES HAVE BEEN SEEN, INCLUDING SOME WHO GIVE ORDERS IN ENGLISH. SOLAUN

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